

URBAN DISTRICT OF FAILSWORTH



Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year 1955

TERENCE P. O'GRADY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

WILFRED L. MONKS, M.S.I.A.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent

FAILSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT



*With the Compliments
of the
Medical Officer of Health*

URBAN DISTRICT OF FAILSWORTH.

The

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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF FAILSWORTH

Health Committee, 1955-56 :

Councillor M. N. Whiteley (Chairman).
,, G. Howarth, J.P. (Vice-Chairman).
,, G. E. Edge.
,, S. Varney, J.P.
,, G. A. Hughes, J.P.
,, J. R. Taylor.
,, Mrs. B. McKenzie.
,, R. Aldcroft.
,, W. Robertson.
,, R. Ord.
,, D. Makinson.
,, J. Stanhope, J.P.
,, J. Fogarty, C.C.
,, J. H. Bell.
,, G. F. Wilson.

Medical Officer of Health :

TERENCE P. O'GRADY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :

WILFRED L. MONKS, M.S.I.A.,
Cert. of Meat and Other Foods, R.S.I.
Cert. of Smoke Inspector, R.S.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

HUGH P. LAWRENCE, Cert. R.S.I.
(Resigned, January, 1955)

CYRIL BUCKLEY, M.S.I.A.
(Appointed, May, 1955)

Clerk in Public Health Department :

Mrs. D. ROWBOTTOM.

Town Hall,
Failsworth,
June, 1956

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

I again have pleasure in presenting for your consideration my Annual Report on the health of the district for the year 1955. Taken all in all, it was a satisfying year from the public health aspect.

As regards notifiable infectious diseases, measles, which assumed epidemic proportion towards the end of 1954, continued over the early part of 1955, and this disease, together with dysentery, accounted for about 70 per cent of the total infectious diseases notified. Happily, no deaths resulted from any such diseases during the year. It has become commonplace to note annually the absence of any case of diphtheria and it is well to remind ourselves that it is due to immunisation that the 934 deaths reported for England and Wales in 1944 as due to this disease, had, by 1954, declined to only nine deaths. It is essential to maintain the proven defences by continued immunisation of young children, all the more so that protection against whooping cough also is now being generally provided in the same injections. Dysentery, usually mild and rarely fatal, is by reason of its high infectivity, a difficult disease to control and one against which, in our present state of knowledge, the most essential preventive measure consists in strict attention to personal cleanliness and hygiene.

The death rate of 11.6 per 1,000 of the population compares with the figure of 11.3 for the preceding year. One-hundred-and-thirty-six deaths out of the 214 total for the year were in respect of persons aged 65 and over. Diseases of the heart and circulatory system and cancer accounted for 146, or approximately 68 per cent of the total deaths. To a large extent, this latter is indicative of the fact that more people are living longer and arriving at ages when such diseases take toll. Of course, other factors also play a part, and here, in the light of recent investigations and findings, it is interesting and also perhaps disturbing to find that 12 deaths, all male, resulted from cancer of the lung and associated air passages.

As regards atmospheric pollution, action is at present, as it were, becalmed, pending the introduction of new legislations under which it is hoped that more effective measures against air pollution will be available.

Although not directly concerned with school administration, the members have evinced a healthy interest in the general sanitary conditions prevalent at schools within the area—an interest which it is hoped will soon lead to some practical results.

I wish to express my appreciation of the consideration and support given by the Chairman and members of the Health Committee and the ever-willing help received from the Clerk of the Council and other officials and departments. I am especially indebted to the Senior Sanitary Inspector and the staff of the Health Department for the generous and ready co-operation at all times.

T. P. O'GRADY,

Medical Officer of Health

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

Failsworth is a compact Urban District of 1,663 acres, of which approximately nine acres are covered with water.

There is a gradual rise from 286 feet above sea level at the Manchester extremity to 354 feet above sea level at the Oldham extremity.

The district is divided into five wards, namely, North, South, East, West and Lower.

The sub-soil is chiefly clay, with sand and gravel in places overlying the coal measures.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	1663
Population (Census 1951)	18033
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate for mid-year 1955)	18480
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1955) according to Rate Books	6304
Rateable Value (end of 1955)	£117,888
Sum represented by a 1d. Rate (end of 1955) (estimated)	£467

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births—

	Total. Males. Females.				
Legitimate	239	123	116		
Illegitimate	6	3	3	Birth Rate per 1000 estimated population	13.3
Total ...	245	126	119		
Still Births	5	3	2	Rate per 1000 Total Births	20

Deaths	214	112	102	Crude Death Rate per 1000 estimated population	11.6
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Deaths from Puerperal Causes:—

Puerperal sepsis	—
Other puerperal causes.....	—

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:—

All Infants, 5. Legitimate, 4; Illegitimate, 1.

Mortality rate per 1,000 Live Births, 20.

Neo-natal Mortality.

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	3
Mortality rate per 1000 live births	12

Principal Causes of Death.

Deaths from Heart Disease (all ages)	68
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	39

	Per 1000 of Estimated Population				Maternal Mortality Rate		Rate of Deaths under 1 Year per 1000 Live Births
	Live Birth-rate	Crude Death-rate	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death-rate from Cancer	Per 1000 Live Births	Per 1000 Total (Live and Still) Births	
1955 ...	13.3	11.6	0.22	2.11	Nil	Nil	20
1954 ...	13.9	11.3	0.05	2.34	Nil	Nil	23
1950-1954 ...	14.6	11.3	0.23	1.77	Nil	Nil	26

Increase or decrease on previous year.

1954 ...	— 0.6	+ 0.3	+ 0.17	— 0.23	Nil	Nil	— 3
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Increase or decrease on 5 year average.

1950-1954 ...	— 1.3	+ 0.3	— 0.01	+ 0.34	Nil	Nil	— 6
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1955 adjusted Death rate (comparability factor 1.13) = 13.1 per 1000.

1955 adjusted Birth rate (comparability factor 0.98) = 13.0 per 1000.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

The following services are administered by the Lancashire County Council through the No. 11 Health Division whose office is at "Tylon," Middleton Road, Chadderton.

MATERNITY SERVICE

Two domiciliary midwives serve the district. The ante-natal clinic is held at Firs Hall, Oldham Road, on Tuesday afternoons between the hours of 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

HEALTH VISITORS AND SCHOOL NURSES

Two full-time Health Visitors/School Nurses are employed in the area.

CLINICS.

Regular sessions of the following clinics are held at Firs Hall, Oldham Road, Failsworth, as follows:—

Ante and Post Natal: Every Tuesday afternoon at 2 p.m.

Maternity and Child Welfare: Every Wednesday and Thursday afternoon at 2 p.m.

Diphtheria Immunisation: By appointment.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

The Divisional Medical Officer and the Assistant Divisional Medical Officer are also School Medical Officers. Clinics are held at Firs Hall, as follows:—

Minor Ailments: Every Thursday morning at 10 a.m.

Ophthalmic, Orthodontic, Child Guidance and Speech Therapy Clinics attended by appointment only.

The School Dental Clinic was re-opened in 1952 and a School Dental Officer is in attendance each morning. Treatment is by appointment only.

CARE OF CHILDREN UNDER THE CHILDREN ACT, 1948.

The work in connection with Infant Life Protection and Adoption of Children is carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

The Area Childrens' Officer for this District has an office at Enville House, Scotland Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

DAY NURSERIES.

There are two day nurseries, one of 37 place accommodation at Oldham Road, and one of 50 place accommodation at Totton Road, which are the responsibility of the County Council. There are also a further two nurseries attached to cotton mills in the district.

AMBULANCE.

The ambulance service is provided by the Lancashire County Council, and the ambulance station is situated at Middleton.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

Home helps are available for emergency cases, priority being given to maternity cases, general sickness cases, and the elderly and infirm. The services of a home help can be obtained on application to the Divisional Medical Officer.

HOME NURSING SERVICE.

Provided by the Lancashire County Council through the Divisional Medical Officer.

CONVALESCENCE.

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire County Council through the Divisional Medical Officer.

CONVALESCENT TREATMENT.

Under arrangement made by the Regional Hospital Board through the Local Hospital Management Committee.

UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

Provision for their care is made by Lancashire County Council in conjunction with Voluntary Moral Welfare Organisations.

WELFARE SERVICE.

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire County Council resident accommodation is provided at the Annexe, Oldham and District General Hospital and at various Hostels for aged people.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The Chest Clinic is situated in the Oldham and District General Hospital where all suspected cases of Tuberculosis are referred. X-Ray facilities are available at the Clinic.

HOSPITAL SERVICE.

Hospitals available to residents of Failsworth are:—

General and Maternity Cases: Oldham and District General Hospital and Manchester Hospitals.

Infectious Diseases: Westhulme and Monsall Hospitals

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	1945	1953	1954	1955
Diphtheria	7	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	9	4	56
Erysipelas	4	4	3	4
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—
Measles	62	260	177	207
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	—	—	—
Pneumonia	20	36	16	23
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	2	1	—
Scarlet Fever	33	71	35	37
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	25	25	13	16
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	84	142	58	6
	<hr/> 238 <hr/>	<hr/> 549 <hr/>	<hr/> 308 <hr/>	<hr/> 351 <hr/>

DIPHTHERIA.

Although we have been fortunate enough to have had no notifications or deaths from Diphtheria the public cannot afford to become complacent. Immunisation of all children still remains the sheet anchor of prevention. Whenever a case of Diphtheria does occur, especially in the unimmunised child, it can still be a killing disease.

SCARLET FEVER.

There was a slight increase in the incidence of scarlet fever, 37 notifications having been received as against 35 in the previous year. It was of a mild type which enabled 31 cases to be nursed at home.

PNEUMONIA.

Twenty-three cases were notified against 16 in the previous year. There were eight deaths from Pneumonia.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

No cases occurred during the year.

ERYSIPELAS.

As in previous years the number of cases notified was small : only four cases occurred and made good recovery.

MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTION.

One case occurred during the year.

MEASLES.

There was an increase in the number of Measles cases notified : 207 against 177 in the previous year.

Only three cases were admitted to hospital although it is a much more serious disease than scarlet fever because of the complications such as running ears, visual defects and general ill health which may result.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

There was a decrease from 58 in 1954 to six in the current year. The great majority of the cases occurred in the 1 to 5 years of age group.

DYSENTERY

It will be noticed that there were 56 notifications of dysentery which were entirely of the sonne type. This type of dysentery is very prevalent in the community but because of its mild nature many of those affected do not call in medical aid and thus remain unknown to the Health Department.

FOOD POISONING.

No cases were notified during the year.

PATHOLOGICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The number of specimens examined by the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall, Manchester, and the results of such examination were as undernoted :—

	<i>Negative</i>	<i>Positive</i>
Diphtheria	1	—
Tuberculosis	2	—
Dysentery	412	323
Whooping Cough	—	—
Gastro-enteritis	—	—
Bact Coli	2	14

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1918—Section 47.

No applications were made under the above Act during the year.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1955

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.												Total Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district	Total Deaths
	Total Cases at all Ages	AT AGES—YEARS.													
		Under 1	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and over					
Scarlet Fever	37	—	4	13	20	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	
Measles	207	3	55	68	80	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	
Whooping Cough	6	—	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Primary and Acute Influenzal Pneumonia...	23	—	1	1	1	—	4	4	7	5	—	2	—	8	
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Dysentery	56	—	13	8	23	5	—	4	2	1	1	—	—	—	
Erysipelas	4	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals	335	4	75	94	127	6	4	8	10	7	12	8	—	8	

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1955

Age-Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3-4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-9	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-14	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-24	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-44	1	—	2	—	—	2	—	—
45-64	5	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 and over	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	8	6	2	—	2	2	—	—
	14		2		4		—	

No action has been necessary relating to tuberculosis employees in the milk trade, nor for the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from the disease.

The duties of tuberculosis visitation are carried out by the staff of the County Council.

Disinfection of the rooms and bedding is carried out in all cases of pulmonary tuberculosis when the patient dies, removes from the district, or enters sanatorium.

The number of new cases showed an increase of three from last year's figures.

At the end of the year there were 121 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 22 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis on the register.

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S TABLE

Causes of Death, 1955

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Males	Females
All Causes	112	102
Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	2
Tuberculosis, other.....	...	.
Syphilitic Disease .....	...	.
Diphtheria .....	...	..
Whooping Cough .....	...	...
Meningococcal Infections .....	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	...	...
Measles .....	...	.
Other infective and parasitic diseases .....	...	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	12	...
Malignant neoplasm, breast .....	...	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus .....	...	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm ...	10	7
Leukæmia, aleukæmia .....	...	..
Diabetes	1	...
Vascular lesions of nervous system	5	17
Coronary disease, angina	20	12
Hypertension with heart disease	2	1
Other Heart Disease	13	20
Other Circulatory Disease.....	8	9
Influenza	1	...
Pneumonia	6	2
Bronchitis	10	5
Other disease of respiratory system	3	...
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	3
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	...
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	...
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .....	...	...
Congenital malformations .....	...	...
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	7
Motor Vehicle Accidents .....	...	..
All other accidents	1	5
Suicide	1	2
Homicide and operations of war.....	...	...

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1955

*Net Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under
One Year of Age. Compiled from Local Returns*

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Under 24 Hours	1-6 Days	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks and under 3 Months	3 Months and under 6 Months	6 Months and under 9 Months	9 Months and under 12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 Year
All causes	Certified	2	1	—	—	—	3	1	—	1	—	5
	Uncertified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Prematurity		1	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Asphyxia		1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Total		2	1	—	—	—	3	1	—	1	—	5

TOTAL DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS DURING 1955

	Under 1 year	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over	Total
Deaths from all causes.....	5	2	—	1	2	1	8	59	136	214

**REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR
AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT.**

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Failsworth,

June, 1956

To the Chairman and Members
of the Health Committee.

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration my Annual Report upon the Sanitary circumstances of the District and the work done by the Sanitary Inspectors during 1955.

This has been a difficult year in connection with routine work due to the post of additional Sanitary Inspector being vacant from January to May, the extra work involved in the Housing Survey and the preparation of the Slum Clearance programme.

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, does not appear to be having any appreciable effect on the improvement of rented houses, as in practice the conditions attached to increase of rent are much too stringent, and a more simple method, giving some incentive to the owner is necessary if co-operation is to be obtained.

Probably the most essential improvement needed in the district is the provision of a sewer in Woodhouses, when most of the pollution of the streams will be obviated and the majority of the pail closets can be converted to water closets.

In submitting this report, I wish to record my thanks to the Members and Officials of the Council and in particular to the Staff of the Health Department for the invaluable co-operation and assistance which I have received during the year.

WILFRED L. MONKS,

*Senior Sanitary Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent.*

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

All dwellinghouses in the District are supplied direct from water mains. The District is supplied by Oldham Corporation; Ashton-under-Lyne, Dukinfield, Stalybridge and District Water Board; and Manchester Corporation.

Sixty-nine samples of treated water going into supply were submitted for bacteriological examination. All were reported as satisfactory.

Complaints are still being received regarding low water pressure in houses due to silt from the mains blocking the service pipes.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The river Medlock adjoins the Sewage Works, and receives the sewage effluent. It flows along the south-east border of the district. On the opposite boundary of the district is the Moston Brook, which flows into the river Irk.

A smaller brook, named Lord's Brook, flows into the Medlock, and another small stream occurs near the Cemetery.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

All drains are examined before being covered in, and smoke or water tests applied where applicable.

The sewers in the district are partly brick and partly pipe. Most of the storm water finds its way into the sewers. They are periodically flushed and are ventilated by open manholes and gratings. House drains are well trapped and soil pipes are properly ventilated. The sewage is treated at the Council's Sewage Works.

TREATMENT OF SEWAGE AT DISPOSAL WORKS.—The dry-weather flow of sewage exceeds 1,250,000 gallons per day. The sewage enters the works through a cast-iron pipe, 3 feet in diameter. The crude sewage is treated with lime and ferrous sulphate and passes through detritus tanks, on through precipitation and settling tanks, and through 12 sprinkler filters, the effluent being subjected to humus tanks and strainer filters before being discharged into the river Medlock.

Woodhouses is unsewered. Most of the sink waste water finds its way into ditches and small water courses. Lord's Brook is seriously polluted by drainage from a large piggery. Negotiations are in hand for the provision of a sewer which will minimise this nuisance.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

The following table shows the approximate number of the various sanitary conveniences in the district at the close of the year:—

CLOSETS.	House and Shops	Public B'd'gs & Rec. G'ds	Factories	TOTALS
Privy-midden closets	—	—	—	—
Pail-closets	246	14	3	263
Fresh water-closets	6642	192	642	7476
Waste water-closets	88	—	—	88
Trough closets.....	—	34	—	34
	6976	240	645	7861

Twelve waste-water and four pail closets were converted to fresh water closets during the year. Waste-water closets and pail closets are most unsatisfactory and should be abolished at the earliest possible opportunity.

The Council's policy of making the maximum grant allowed by the Public Health Act, 1936, is now well known throughout the District and there is no doubt that the number of conversions will rapidly increase.

The following table shows the approximate number of the various refuse receptacles:—

REFUSE RECEPTACLES.	Houses and Shops	Public B'd'gs & Rec. G'ds	Factories	TOTALS
Privy-middens (covered) .	—	—	—	—
Dry ashpits (covered) ...	—	—	—	—
Metal Ashbins	6625	64	52	6741
	6625	64	52	6741

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Four seven cubic yard 14 horse power Karrier Bantam refuse collectors are employed full time on the collection of refuse. A special once weekly collection of paper salvage is made from certain shops and business premises, but generally trade refuse and salvage are collected during the normal course of the house refuse collection service.

The personnel of the Department is 24, comprising a foreman, four drivers, sixteen ashbin men, two tip attendants and one paper baler/rodent operator.

Refuse is collected from approximately 6446 premises and a regular weekly collection has been maintained for a large part of the year, although difficulties have been encountered due to the abnormal sickness rate of the workmen, for the second year in succession.

The Council have operated a scheme for the maintenance of dustbins as a charge upon the general rate fund since 1st April, 1949; 633 dustbins were provided under the scheme during the past year.

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on low lying land near Broadway, and adjoining the Manchester Boundary. This land is adjacent to the Council's Lower Park and tipping is at present taking place to extend the area used as football pitches.

The negotiations for the appropriation of a portion of the Broadway allotments for use as a tip were completed.

With this addition the tip will still only have a very limited life and additional tipping sites must be found within the next few years.

We are entirely dependant on ashes solicited from various sources for covering material for the tip but no shortage has been noticed this year.

Large amounts of waste paper are still being placed in the bins considerably increasing the fire risk.

Two hundred and sixty-three pail closets are emptied weekly by one of the refuse collection vehicles to which is attached a trailer tank for the purpose. Cesspools are emptied by means of a mechanical pump as requested.

The tank is emptied, without causing any nuisance, into a special chute in Lord Lane which is connected to the Main Sewer.

Street cleansing is carried out by seven street orderlies working on the beat system.

Disposal of waste paper has been easier and 151 tons, $7\frac{3}{4}$ hundredweights were baled and sold realising the sum of £1,262 1s. 5d., one ton $8\frac{1}{2}$ hundredweights of waste string was also baled and sold realising the additional sum of £15 6s. 4d.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

The following tabular statement has been prepared in accordance with Article 27 of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and contains information as to:—

- (a) The number and nature of inspections made during the year,
- (b) The number of notices served during the year, distinguishing statutory from informal notices;
- (c) The result of the service of such notices

(Please refer to next page)

Tabular Statement of Sanitary Inspections for the Year ended 31st December, 1955.

INSPECTIONS.			Result of Service of Notices			
Nature of	Number of	No. of Notices Served		Complied with		Outstanding
		Informal	Statutory.	By Owner or Occupier.	By Council in Default.	
Water Supply	50	5	8	5	—	8
Drainage	90	19	—	19	—	—
Stables and Piggeries	45	—	—	—	—	—
Offensive Trades	35	1	—	1	—	—
Tents, Vans and Sheds.....	70	—	—	—	—	—
Factories	125	7	—	7	—	—
Outworkers	65	—	—	—	—	—
Refuse Collection	325	—	—	—	—	—
Refuse Disposal	125	—	—	—	—	—
Smoke Observations	45	9	—	9	—	—
Rats and Mice	1370	—	—	—	—	—
Schools	20	—	—	—	—	—
Shops	656	—	—	—	—	—
Interviews	475	—	—	—	—	—
Dwelling Houses	732	151	16	106	—	52
Revisits to Property	1074	—	—	—	—	—
Vermineous Premises	105	—	—	—	—	—
Infectious Disease	351	—	—	—	—	—
Disinfection after Infectious Disease	11	—	—	—	—	—
Visits to Premises where Food is prepared, sold or stored (including Vehicles)	352	5	—	5	—	—
Visits to Ice Cream Premises	56	—	—	—	—	—
Dairies and Milkshops	200	—	—	—	—	—
Slaughterhouses	63	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	6440	197	24	152	—	60

DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING 1955

DWELLING HOUSES—	No.
Unclean Houses	—
Infested with Cockroaches	105
Kitchen ranges, fireplaces and flues	6
Washboilers	—
Defective Plaster	46
Defective ceiling plaster	9
Floors and stairs	16
Doors, windows and cords	40
Damp walls	20
Sinks	2
Waste pipes and channels	—
Roofs	45
Pointing and brickwork of walls	20
Yard paving and paths	6
Rainwater pipes and eaves gutters	33
Drains cleansed or repaired	29
Defective W.C. apparatus and buildings	31
Defective chimney stacks	11
Defective water supply and cisterns	3
Defective ashbins	633
Ventilation	—
Offensive accumulations	1
Miscellaneous	7
 FACTORIES—	
Unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation	4
Other nuisances	3
 FOOD PREMISES—	
Cleansing and limewashing	1
Structural defects	2
Removal of refuse	1
Miscellaneous	1
 Total	<hr/> 1075 <hr/>
 Complaints received and investigated	 350

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, CAMPING SITES, ETC.

The number of moveable dwellings in occupation at the end of the year was 11. These are situated on enclosed land and are provided with satisfactory water supply and sanitary accommodation. Regular inspections were made to ensure compliance with Bye-laws made by the Council in 1928.

Three Caravans were closed, unfit for human habitation, and the use of the site for Caravans discontinued.

No licences under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, have been issued by the Local Authority.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

Forty-five smoke observations were taken during the year. No legal action was taken, but it was found necessary on a number of occasions to inspect the boiler plants at factories in an endeavour to reduce the output of smoke.

A joint scheme for the investigation of atmospheric pollution has been formed by seventeen Local Authorities and lead peroxide gauges are installed throughout the area, one of these is situated in the Council's yard, Sisson Street.

DISINFESTATION.

One hundred-and-five houses infested with cockroaches were treated by the Council with insecticides containing D.D.T. The results obtained were very satisfactory. Re-inspections were made to check re-infestation and tenants were advised on precautions to be taken.

RODENT CONTROL.

One trained Rodent Operator is employed part time on this work. Regular surveys were made and all complaints given prompt attention. All sewers in the district received two treatments in accordance with the methods approved by the responsible Ministry, and routine inspections and treatments were made at other Council properties.

The South East Lancashire advisory committee meets twice yearly under the auspices of the Divisional Rodent Officer, joint action is planned between representatives when necessary.

The following table shows the number of inspections and treatments carried out during the period under review :—

<i>Type of Property</i>	<i>No. of proper ties Inspected</i>	<i>No. of inspections made</i>	<i>Number of treatments carried out</i>	
Local Authority's property	10	146	12	9
Dwelling Houses	161	881	56	50
Business Premises	40	290	23	10
Agricultural property	22	53	2	—
Total	233	1370	93	69

SCHOOLS.

There are nine schools in the district:—

- County Modern Secondary School for Boys (Partington Street)
- County Modern Secondary School for Girls(Ashton Road East).
- Mather Street County School (Junior Mixed and Infants).
- Stansfield Road County School (Junior Mixed and Infants).
- St. John's Church of England School (Junior Mixed and Infants)
- Holy Trinity Church of England School
(Junior Mixed and Infants).
- St. Mary's Roman Catholic School
Senior and Junior Mixed and Infants)
- Woodhouses Church of England School
(Junior Mixed and Infants)
- Woodhouses British School Undenominational
(Junior Mixed and Infants).

The schools are supplied with town's water, seven are provided with closets on the water carriage system, in the case of St. John's Church of England School and St. Mary's Roman Catholic School, however, these are obsolete trough closets which should be abolished at the first opportunity.

The Woodhouses schools have pail closets which should be converted to fresh water closets when the sewer is provided. The playgrounds of these two schools are like swamps in wet weather and require properly paving.

A new service pipe was laid at St. John's School, and the water is now taken from a good high pressure main giving a satisfactory supply.

HOUSING.

Number of Houses Erected During the Year :—

(i) By the Local Authority	33
(ii) By other Local Authorities	Nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons	79

1. *Inspection of Dwellinghouses During the Year :—*

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	732
(b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	1074
2. Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit :—	
(a) Number found during year	384
(b) Number (or estimated number) at end of year	379
3. Number of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit	171
2. Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1936, and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 :—	
1. Number of dwelling-houses demolished during the year :—	
(a) Unfit houses	Nil
(b) Other houses	Nil
2. Number of persons displaced	Nil
3. Houses not included in Clearance Areas :—	
1. Houses demolished or closed during year :—	
(a) Housing Act, 1936—	
(i) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Section 11)	5
Persons Displaced	2
(ii) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section 11 and still in force	11
Persons displaced	27
(iii) Parts of building closed (Section 12)	Nil
Persons displaced	Nil
(b) Housing Act, 1949 :—	
(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 3(1) and 3(2)	Nil
Persons displaced	Nil
(c) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 :—	
(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 10(1) and 11(2)	Nil
Persons displaced	Nil

2.	Repairs during the year :—	
(a)	Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts	104
(b)	Public Health Acts—action after service of formal notice—Houses in which defects were remedied :—	
(i)	By owners	2
(ii)	By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(c)	Housing Act, 1936—action after service of formal notice (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16) Houses made fit :—	
(i)	By owners	Nil
(ii)	By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(d)	Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 :— Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked (Section 5) ...	Nil
4.	Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954) :—	
1.	Number of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under Section 7	Nil
2.	Number of separate dwellings contained in (1) above	Nil
3.	Number of houses at end of year licensed for temporary occupation (Section 6)	Nil
5.	Housing Act, 1949—Improvement Grants, etc. :— Action during year :—	
(a)	Submitted by private individuals to local authority—Number of schemes	34
	Number of dwelling-houses or other buildings affected	32
(b)	Submitted by local authority to Ministry	Nil
	Number of dwelling-houses or other buildings affected	Nil
(c)	Finally approved by Ministry	Nil
	Number of dwelling-houses or other buildings affected	Nil
(d)	Work completed	25
	Number of dwelling-houses or other buildings affected	25
(e)	Additional separate dwellings included in (d) above :—	
(i)	Private bodies or individuals	Nil
(ii)	Local authority	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

There were nine dairy farms in the district at the end of the year.

Producers licences are now granted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, but periodic inspections of the farms were made with regard to cleanliness and conditions were found to be satisfactory.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) (No. 3) Order, 1953, came into force on 1st January, 1954, consequently the use of a Special Designation is compulsory with regard to all milk sold by retail in the District.

A very high percentage of the milk retailed in this district is pasteurised milk from the United Co-operative Dairies, Broadway, Failsworth.

The Lancashire County Council is responsible for the licensing of pasteurising plants, but as there is complete co-operation between the County Sanitary Officers and your Sanitary Inspectors we have ample opportunity for inspecting and supervising the premises.

Particulars of registrations made and licences granted under the Milk and Dairies Acts and Regulations are as follows:—

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949:—

No. of registered distributors operating from:—

(a) Own dairies in district	2
(b) Dairy farms in district	—
(c) Shops in the district other than dairies ...	62
(d) Premises outside the district	4

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949:—

No. of dealers licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the Local Authority during 1955 in respect of:—

(a) Tuberculin Tested Milk	6
----------------------------------	---

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949:—

No. of dealers licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the Local Authority during 1955 in respect of:—

(a) Pasteurised Milk	10
(b) Sterilised Milk	66

Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 14, and the
Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1917:—

(i) ICE CREAM.

No. of premises registered to sell Ice Cream ...	45
No. of Inspections	56

(ii) SAUSAGES AND PRESERVED FOODS.

No. of premises registered for the preparation of sausages, etc.	16
No. of Inspections	30

The premises and storage accommodation were found
to be maintained in a satisfactory condition.

(c) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

No. of food premises in the district at the end of 1955 :—

Grocers	65
Greengrocers	27
Butchers	24
Fish Friers	19
Confectioners	20
Sweets	21
Licensed Premises, Clubs, Canteens and Cafe's	60
Orange drink, mixing and bottling...	1

Bye-Laws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 for securing the observance of Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air, came into operation on the 17th July, 1950, and the provisions are generally well observed.

There are four licensed slaughterhouses but most of the slaughtering for the district continues to be done at the abattoirs in Manchester and Oldham.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned within the District.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	20	49	8	301	33
Number inspected	20	49	8	301	33
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis:—</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	8	15	—	18	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	40	30.61	—	5.98	12 12
<i>Tuberculosis only:—</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	8	—	—	1
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	5	16.32	—	—	3.03

Butchers shops were regularly inspected. Premises and equipment were generally maintained at a high standard of cleanliness and the provisions of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations well observed.

The following table gives the quantity of meat and other foods seized or surrendered during the year, upon being found unfit for human consumption:—

<i>Description of Food.</i>	<i>Weight Condemned.</i>			
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Tinned Fruit	—	6	—	1
Tinned Meat	—	4	1	8
Tinned Vegetables	—	—	2	1
Tinned Ham	—	1	2	8
Tinned Tongue	—	—	—	10
Tinned Chicken	—	—	—	4
Tinned Milk	—	—	—	21
Tinned Fish	—	—	—	3
Cheese	—	—	2	0
Ham	—	—	—	19
Sausages	—	—	1	23
Meat and Offal	—	11	1	17
Miscellaneous	—	—	1	10
Total	1	5	2	13

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 15 in the district at the present time. All were frequently inspected, and were found to be in a satisfactory condition.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT. 1938.

The Lancashire County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority, and the undernoted particulars of the sampling carried out under the provisions of the above Act in Failsworth during the year 1955, were supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health

A total of 95 samples was obtained, of these 59 were of milk and the 36 others comprised :—

1 Curry powder.	1 Cake mixture.
2 Zinc ointment.	1 Blanc-mange powder.
4 Flour.	1 Pickles.
1 Stewed steak, canned.	1 Cooking fat.
1 Grapefruit, canned.	1 Pudding mixture—rice.
1 Prunes, canned.	1 Tea
1 Sago.	1 Brown sugar.
1 Orange juice, canned.	1 Baking powder.
1 Salt.	1 Flavouring essence.
3 Pepper, white.	2 Cream, sterilised.
1 Honey, malt and fruit loaf.	1 Margarine.
1 Liquid paraffin.	1 Butter.
1 Aspirin tablets.	1 Coffee.
2 Custard powder.	1 Coffee and chicory essence.

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of flour which contained only 2.8 ounces of Creta Praeparata per 280 pounds and only 0.05 milligrams of Vitamin B1 per 100 grams. The Ministry of Food was informed of the result of this sample.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The only offensive trade in the district is one tripe boiling premises which has been in existence for a considerable time.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 to 1951.

There are no premises in the District at which rag flock is manufactured, used, or sold.

SWIMMING BATHS.

There are no swimming baths in the District. Failsworth residents use the baths in the adjoining districts of Manchester, Oldham and Chadderton.

Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.**1. Inspections, for the purposes of provisions as to health**

PREMISES	Number of			
	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecution
Factories with Mechanical Power	99	102	—	—
Factories without Mechanical Power ...	12	14	—	—
Other Premises under the Act				
<i>(including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworker's premises)</i>	5	9	—	—
Total.....	116	125	—	—

2. Defects found.

PARTICULARS	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referr'd by H. M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	3	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	4	4	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act	—	—	—	—
<i>(Not including offences relating to Outwork)</i>				
Total.....	6	7	1	—

Number of Returns in Outworkers' Section—Nil.

BYE-LAWS AND ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

BYE-LAWS.	<i>Came into force.</i>
Prevention of Nuisances and Keeping of Animals....	13th March, 1900
Slaughterhouses.....	13th March, 1900
Hackney Carriages.....	26th March, 1900
Cemetery Regulations and Charges (with amendments 1941 and 1949).....	March, 1928
Tents, Vans and Sheds and similar structures.....	12th October, 1928
Smoke Abatement—Emission of Black Smoke.....	14th March, 1929
Parks and Pleasure Grounds.....	4th February, 1948
Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air.....	17th July, 1950
Lancashire County Council—Good Rule and Government and Prevention of Nuisances.....	1st May, 1954
Building Bye-laws.....	29th June, 1954
The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890:—	
Part III.....	1st June, 1896
Part IV.....	1st August, 1912
The Public Libraries Acts, 1892 and 1901.....	1st December, 1903
The Private Street Works Act, 1892.....	1st April, 1907
The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907:—	
Section 86.....	31st December, 1912
Section 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33 (Part II).....	21st March, 1913
* Section 30 is subject to certain conditions and adaptations.	
Section 95 (Part X).....	21st March, 1913
Section 76 and 77 comprised in Part VI.....	18th July, 1922
Section 19.....	1944
The Public Health Act, 1925:—	
Part II except Sections 21 and 22.....	1st June, 1926
Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899-1923.....	2nd April, 1947
Sunday Entertainments Act, 1932 (Extension to Failsworth of Section 1).....	1949
Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951.....	
	27th March, 1952

